



FEDERAL HIGHWAY
ADMINISTRATION
Western Federal
Lands Highway
Division

CONSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 04
October 9, 2006



CAPE MEARES
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE

CAPE MEARES LIGHTHOUSE PARKING AREA Project OR RRP CAME 900(1)

Well today is October 9th, on this same day in 1962 we were hit with high winds and rain that later were compared to a hurricane. Like most folks over the age of 55 I can remember that day. Since it was deer season in Oregon my dad and I were in Eastern Oregon hunting in the beautiful Ponderosa Pine country of Flagtail Mountain. The night before the storm hit the local U.S. Forest Service Ranger who we knew well came up and said he believed we were in for some high winds and should break camp and tuck ourselves into a narrow canyon. We did just that and spent the duration of the storm unaffected except for the sound of massive trees snapping and hitting the ground in great “thuds”. After the storm had passed, we went back to our old campsite and it looked more like a log dump with downed trees and limbs everywhere. We left for home that day but the trip down from the mountain was anything but easy, between sawing our way thru the smaller trees and cutting trail around the larger we finally made it back home. To dads amazement aside from a limb or two all was well at home.

Well last week we made real progress as Cisneros Construction brought in another excavator for one day along with another equipment operator. The only unexpected problem last week was running into the soft blue clay in the area where the drinking fountain was located. This was now going to be added parking. We dug down our planned 8-inches below grade without finding anything unusual. We then backfilled with crushed gravel, watered the gravel and then compacted it with the Ingersoll-Rand SD-70 compactor unit. In only a few passes of the compactor over this location and it was obvious with mud coming up thru the rock that we had a soft spot. We dug out a 17' x 20' and found ashes, old busted up brick and some woody debris. With Oregon State Parks personnel looking at the hole it was surmised this could have been one of the on-site brick making operations.

This week we will finish up last of the excavation around the island area and be ready for asphalt. The week we asphalt and do the pavement markings the site will be closed to all traffic. The site is too small to safely work with that much equipment moving around so not only will the gate restrict vehicles we will close the site to everyone except the work force. When that will occur is still unknown, however when we do know the date the information will be sent out ASAP. We will post the local area with bulletins, connect with the local media and hopefully get this on web sites. I know there will be people out there that will be upset over the closure but we are doing what we can to reduce the impact as much as possible.

If you have any commits or concerns related to the construction please forward these to the listed Email address

Federal Highway Administration
Chuck Mikkola, Project Engineer
Cell 360-907-0685

CISNEROS CONSTRUCTION
Mr. Dwight Gill, Project Manager
503-252-9670

TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL, SEND YOUR REQUEST TO charles.mikkola@fhwa.dot.gov



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